

We could not have come to this position without our staff. If I can single out Rick DeBobs' work in particular, I know Judy will forgive me. This is his first year as staff director on our side, and Rick's work has been nothing less than extraordinary. It is exactly what we have come to expect from him.

I must also note Peter Levine, because of his continuous work. I probably should not single out anybody other than Rick, but I think all the members of the staff on this side will also understand why I single out Peter, in addition to Rick DeBobs, for the kind of work they have given this committee this year.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank my colleague. I take note that Peter Levine is here and he has been referred to on our side as the damage control expert, and he is very effective in these areas.

I must inquire of my distinguished colleague, was the long hand of David Lyles felt in this program, the former staff director of Senator LEVIN for these many years? I somehow see the fine hand of David Lyles.

Mr. LEVIN. His influence continues. He is now my chief of staff on my personal staff. He takes, of course, a major interest in this area, as he always has. I am sure Rick and Peter and all the others would say having David on my personal staff is a big plus.

Mr. WARNER. It is a big plus to us, also. I take this opportunity to thank all of the staff members listed by my good friend and colleague, Senator LEVIN.

Mr. President, I want to reach across the aisle, while nobody is looking, and shake hands with my colleague. We have worked together these 25 years and we are a pretty good team. It is a sheer joy to work with him.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Ohio is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MARLIN T. ROCKHOLD

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, at a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery on this day—Veterans Day—nearly two decades ago in 1985, President Ronald Reagan spoke about the responsibility we, the living, have in remembering those who have died for us on the field of battle. At that ceremony, President Reagan said this:

There is a special sadness that accompanies the death of a serviceman [or woman], for we're never quite good enough to them—not really; we can't be, because what they gave us is beyond our powers to repay. And

so, when a service [member] dies, it's a tear in the fabric, a break in the whole, and all we can do is remember.

Today, I come again to the floor of the U.S. Senate to remember an Ohio serviceman who gave his life to protect us, to protect our families, and to help liberate the Iraqi people. Army Private First Class Marlin Tyrone Rockhold, who proudly served with the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Mechanized Infantry Division, was killed on May 8, 2003, by a sniper in Baghdad.

He was 23 years old.

Marlin Rockhold—"Rocko" to his family and friends—was born in Hamilton, OH, on July 1, 1979. He attended school in Butler County and graduated from Hamilton High School in 1998, where he was a well-liked student and member of the Hamilton Big Blue football squad. As his grandmother, Eileen Henderson, described, "Marlin just about always had a smile. He was a person you just had to like."

Though a kidder growing up, Marlin also had a quiet, determined, serious side. After graduation, he set out to realize a dream—a dream he had since childhood. Marlin Rockhold's dream, was to join the military. From the time he was a little boy, he wanted to become a soldier. He wanted to see the world. He wanted to see a life outside of Hamilton. He wanted to serve the country he so dearly loved.

And so, on March 4, 2002, Marlin joined the Army and was sent to Boot Camp at Fort Benning, GA. From there, he was stationed at Fort Stewart, GA. On January 20, 2003, he was sent to Kuwait and eventually went on to serve in Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Mr. President, for as much as Marlin Rockhold loved the Army, he loved his family even more. In fact, two days before he joined the service, on March 2, 2002, he married the love of his life, DaVonna. Marlin was thrilled to begin his family with her and her daughter, Therashia. He loved them both with every ounce of his being. They meant the world to him. He devoted his life to them.

While he was in Iraq, Marlin often wrote letters to his wife and his family. In one letter to his grandmother, he wrote that no one wants to fight a war, but sometimes you do what you have to do.

Through his service in the Army, PFC Marlin Rockhold was doing what he believed in. He didn't want to leave his family. He didn't want to fight a war. But Marlin Rockhold did what he felt he had to do. As Rev. Lonnie Napier said at Marlin's memorial service:

He was willing to join the fight for the hopeless so that they might be free.

Marlin Rockhold was a good soldier. He was a good man. Marlin's sister Brooke said he "always was determined to be happy. Now he's with the Lord. He's happy."

I attended Marlin's funeral, and I am grateful to have had the chance to hear

his family talk about the "Rocko" they so deeply loved and admired. At the service, Marlin's brother Derrick said:

My brother is a hero, my hero, our hero. He is my inspiration. My brother's legacy will live forever in our hearts.

Without question, Marlin Rockhold is a hero, and his legacy will live on through all who knew him and loved him.

In addition to his wife and daughter, left to cherish his memory are his mother Mary, his father Gary, his stepmother Joan, his grandmother Eileen, his four brothers, Keith, Derrick, Gregory, and Anton, his two sisters, Brooke and Kara, his in-laws Dorothy and Clarence and Demery and Patricia, and several aunts and uncles and nieces and nephews.

I know they will miss Marlin deeply. My thoughts and prayers are with them all.

I would like to close with something Marlin's wife Davonna said. She said this:

I just want Marlin to be remembered—that he [won't] be forgotten. I'll never forget him.

We, too, will never forget Marlin Rockhold. We will always remember him because, as President Reagan said at the conclusion of his remarks at Arlington National Cemetery on that Veterans Day 17 years ago:

We owe a debt we can never repay. All we can do is remember [the soldiers who have died] and what they did and why they had to be brave for us. All we can do is try to see that other young men and women never have to join them.

TRIBUTE TO BILL MAULDIN

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today on Veterans Day, we are reminded of the sacrifices of all those who have served in our Armed Forces. We honor them, we remember them, and we thank them.

Today I would like to talk about a veteran who proudly served in World War II, a veteran who died this past year, and a veteran who has, I think, great meaning for those who served in World War II. He was a soldier who told the stories of World War II through these drawings. That man, of course, is Bill Mauldin. He is remembered for depicting in his cartoons the average World War II soldier, the person who was doing his job, just trying to survive, trying to get home; the average World War II soldier who won the war; the average soldier to whom we all owe so much.

While Bill Mauldin was depicting the soldier of that generation, in a sense he was depicting all those who serve and who have ever served.

Bill Mauldin passed away on January 22 of this year at the age of 81 following a courageous battle against Alzheimer's disease.

World War II veterans felt and continue to feel an attachment to Bill Mauldin because he really seemed to understand what a typical GI was